

The Examiner objected to the drawings, stating deficiencies with respect to limitations recited in Claims 21, 23, 25 and 28. Claims 21, 23, 25 and 28 are amended to conform to the drawings.

The Examiner objected to the Specification citing a typographical error. The Specification is amended to correct the typographical error.

The Examiner rejected Claims 19 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as containing non-enabled subject matter. As Claims 19 and 20 are canceled, the Examiner's rejection is rendered moot.

The Examiner rejected Claims 1, 2, 11, 12, 23 and 24 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,654,873 ("Smithson"). Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's rejection. As amended, Claim 1 recites:

a first notch provided on a first interior side of the first drive bay;

a handle rotatably connected to the retaining portion of the first drive chassis and having a first end and a second end distal from the first end, said handle being rotatable about an axis located between the first and second ends of the handle, said handle defining a closed position in which the first end of said handle is a first distance from the front end of the first rail of the first drive assembly, and said handle defining an open position in which the handle is rotated about the axis such that the first end of the handle is a second distance from the front end of the first rail of the first drive assembly, the first distance being less than the second distance; and

a first latch provided on the first end of the handle and adapted to engage the first notch when the first drive assembly is inserted into the first drive bay and the handle is in the closed position;

Applicants respectfully submit that the above-quoted limitations of amended Claim 1 are neither disclosed nor suggested by Smithson which, as the Examiner pointed out in his rejection of Claim 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) over Smithson, in view of U.S. Patent 5,751,551 ("Hileman"), does not teach "a notch on a first interior side of the drive bay." In his rejection of Claim 13, the Examiner argues that it would have been obvious to modify Smithson to incorporate Hileman's teachings. Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner. To combine the teachings of Smithson and Hileman, one would have to replace

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Smithson's lever 201 with Hileman's lever or handle 42 to allow a proper engagement of the notch in the close position. Such a modification would destroy the functionality of Smithson's lever as a carrier handle for the media drive once the media drive is removed from the Chassis (Smithson, beginning at col. 2, line 67 to col. 3, line 2). Thus, Smithson teaches away from such a combination. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 1, and therefore dependent Claims 2, 11-12 and 23-24 are allowable. Reconsideration and allowance of Claims 1-2, 11-12 and 23-24 are requested.


The Examiner rejected Claims 3-10, 13-18, 21-22 and 25-32 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Smithson, in view of Hileman, U.S. Patent 6,084,768 ("Bologna"), and U.S. Patent 6,018,456 ("Young"). Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's rejection. As discussed above, Claim 1 is allowable over the prior art references of record because Smithson teaches against modifying its teaching in the direction of Hileman. Since Claims 3 - 10, 13 - 18 and 21 - 22 each, depend from Claim 1, Claims 3 - 10, 13-18 and 21-22 are thus also allowable over the prior art references of record. Limitations similar to those recited in Claim 1 and discussed above are also provided in Claims 25 - 32. However, for substantially the same reasons as those discussed above, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of Claims 25 - 32.

The Examiner indicated allowable subject matter in Claims 33 - 38.


Thus, all pending claims (i.e., Claims 1 - 18 and 21 - 39) are believed allowable.

If the Examiner has any questions regarding the above, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned Attorney for Applicants at (408) 453-9200.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on June 20, 2007.

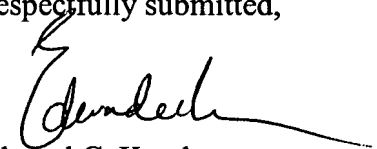


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